MINUTES OF OF A SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE LAFAYETTE PARKING COMMISSION

August 17, 2020 11:00am

The meeting was held in City Council Chambers, 1st Floor of Lafayette City Hall. Due to COVID-19, attendance at the meeting was limited to the extent necessary to maintain social distancing requirements. Wearing of face coverings was required.

Attendance

Commissioners: Ken McCammon, Andrew Muffett, Cindy Murray, T.J. Thieme, Scott Trzaskus

Ex-Officio Members: John Collier, Assistant Director, Economic Development; Sgt. Scott Anderson, Representative from Traffic Commission

Staff: Jacque Chosnek, Deputy City Attorney; Billy Emerson, Parking Operations; Rob Blue, IT Department; Jeromy Grenard, City Engineer; Nick Standerfer, City Traffic Foreman, Dennis Carson, Economic Development; Michelle Conwell, Economic Development

Guests: Paul Baldwin, Spot Tavern; Sandy Kopf, 1219-1221 S 4th St; Tina Minjares, Bahn Mi Eatery; Ryan King, BF&S (design consultant)

Call To Order

Andrew Muffett, President, noted that a quorum was present and opened the meeting of the Lafayette Parking Commission at 11:00 a.m. The Commission welcomed new member, Scott Trzaskus, owner of the East End Grill.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Ken McCammon moved to approve July 20, 2020 Parking Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Cindy Murray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Request to approve a proposal to modify on-street parking (including new "no parking" zones) to accommodate parking, vehicle travel lanes, pedestrian crossings and bike facilities/lanes on S. 4th St. between Romig St. and Teal Rd. (US 52) Requestors – City Engineer's Office and Economic Development Department, City of Lafayette

The purpose of this special meeting was for final review of the proposal to modify on-street parallel parking on portions of S. 4th Street from Romig St. to Teal Rd. (US 52). The Commission reviewed a draft plan of the proposal at the May 7, 2020 special meeting with Ryan King of BF&S, the consulting firm designing the striping plan for S. 4th Street. This stretch of 4th Street was repayed last year following a major water line project. BF&S was hired because the City wishes to enhance the bicycle and pedestrian facilities on the street before painting the new striping. On-street parking on portions of the street will be affected by the project. Ryan King of BF&S Engineering presented a striping plan that proposes on-street bike lanes on some sections of the street in lieu of existing on-street parking. In addition to bike lane markings, the plan also proposes painted cross walks at appropriate intersections, particularly near Miller School, and markings for individual parking spaces where onstreet parking will remain. Ryan met with the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee prior to this meeting and they are supportive of the project and the enhancements to bicycle and pedestrian safety that it provides. Ryan noted that the number of on-street parking spaces to be maintained increased following feedback from businesses along the corridor. Dennis Carson spoke in favor of the request, noting that the proposal is consistent with the City's support of "complete streets" an initiative that strives to accommodate all modes of transportation equitably, rather than exclusive accommodation of the automobile drivers' needs at the expense of all other needs from other modes of transportation. Sandy Kopf of 1219-1221 S. 4th St. expressed concern over the reduction of parking in front of her retail rental property and the loss of parking on the opposite side of S. 4th Street. She asked the Commission to maintain parking on the west side of 4th Street across from her property. She believes the reduction in on-street parking on her block will limit her ability to lease the retail space she owns. Ms. Kopf also

shared a letter from Chad McDonald of The Biltmore Tavern, on the opposite side of the street from her property, which expressed the same concerns. Tina Minjares of Banh Mi Eatery was comfortable with the changes on 4th Street, but was concerned about the removal of parking and the lack of a loading zone on south side of Owen Street. There was considerable discussion regarding the feedback received and clarification was provided about the location of the bike lane on the east side of 4th Street and the fact that most on-street parking on the east side of 4th Street was maintained between Hickory and Owen Streets. It was clarified that parking on the south side of Owen Street was removed from an earlier version of the plan due to confusion about how loading zones are established in the City, so it was proposed that the parking be re-established on Owen Street and that one loading zone space be added there as well. Following additional discussion, T.J. Thieme moved to approve for the plan to be implemented with parking remaining on Owen Street and also adding a loading zone on Owen Street. Ken McCammon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Parking Operations Report

None

Director's Report

None

Public Comment & Adjournment

President Muffett asked for comments from the public. John Collier received two calls from the public. One call was from Sandy Kopf of 1219-1221 S 4th who was present at the meeting to share her feedback. The other call was from a 4th street resident wanting to know if he was required to attend, but he had no concerns. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting of the Lafayette Parking Commission was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Conwell for the Secretary

Signed,

Cindy Murray, Secretary, Lafayette Parking Commission